



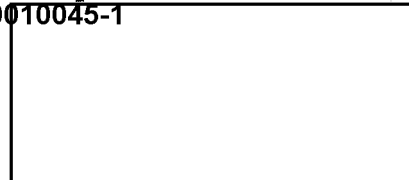
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Africa Review

Supplement
2 February 1979

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RP AR 79-005C

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AFRICA REVIEW
SUPPLEMENT

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2 February 1979

CONTENTS

25X1

Zaire: Healing Shaba's Wounds (U). 3

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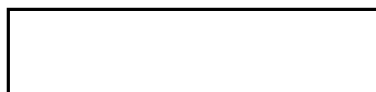
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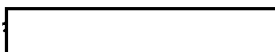
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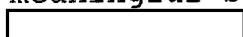
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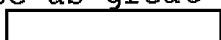
Zaire: Healing Shaba's Wounds



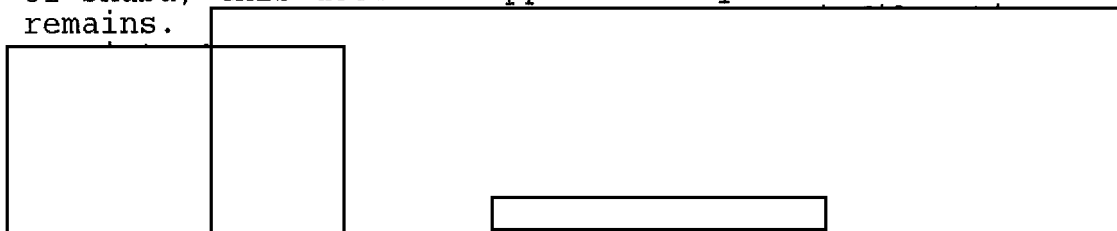
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Shaba Region (formerly Katanga Province)** continues to be plagued by serious economic, political, and social problems that Shabans blame on the neglect and indifference of the Mobutu regime. Although President Mobutu has initiated some modest reforms, he is unlikely to take meaningful steps to resolve the basic causes of discontent.



25X1 The Inter-African Force (IAF) apparently will remain in Shaba for another three to six months. Its continued presence for as long as possible is seen by Mobutu and his outside supporters as essential to continuing stability in the region. The major role of the IAF, however, has evolved to one of protecting Shaba's civilians from depredations by the Zairian Armed Forces (FAZ) which, once the IAF leaves, will pose as great a threat to civilians as do the rebels.  25X1

Despite reports of rebel activity in the border regions of Angola and Zambia and rumors of an invasion of Shaba, this does not appear likely while the IAF remains.

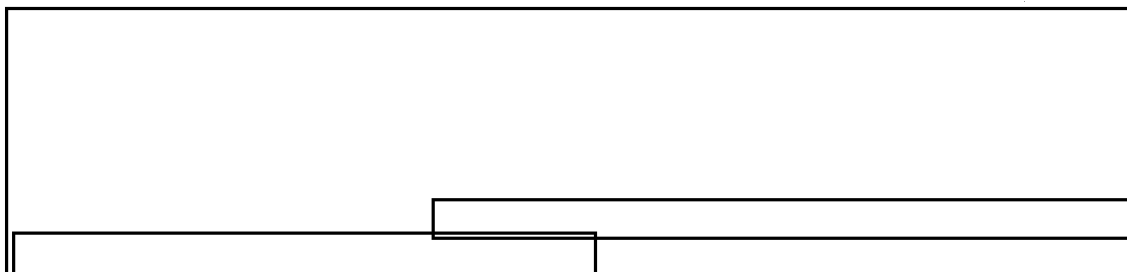


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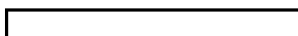
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2 February 1979

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Tens of thousands of former Zairian dissidents and refugees have returned to Shaba following Mobutu's amnesty last year, but some are being detained and harassed; they will remain a potential pool of discontent. [REDACTED]

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The Belgians and French, Mobutu's major outside supporters, want the IAF to remain for another six months. They have growing doubts, however, about the prospects for long-term stability in Shaba. They are reluctant to press Mobutu further to implement political reforms that might ease the situation in Shaba. Mobutu will be fortunate to escape 1979 without some form of trouble in Shaba, especially after the IAF departs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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2 February 1979

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